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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/450,236	11/29/1999	KAZUHIRO EGUCHI	MAT-7867US	7329

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EXAMINER

EBRAHIMI DEHKORDY, SAEID

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2626

DATE MAILED: 03/12/2004

9

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/450,236

Applicant(s)

EGUCHI, KAZUHIRO

Examiner

Saeid Ebrahimi-dehKordy

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 December 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-32 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 15-28 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 29-32 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 6.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

Response to Amendment

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-14 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamashita et al (U.S. patent 5,146,354) in view of Senda (U.S. patent 5,496,116)

Regarding claim 1,6,11 and 13 Yamashita et al disclose: An electronic print-board apparatus (please note Fig.1 and 2 column 2 lines 67-68 and column 3 lines 1-2) comprising: a writing medium having a writing surface where image information is written on said writing surface (please note Fig.2 column 3 lines 15-24) reading means for reading said image information (please note Fig.2 item 22 column 3 lines 9-12 where this item reads the writing material from the electronic board 21) Printing means for printing said image information read by said Reading means onto a printing medium (please note Fig.1 item 5 the printer column 3 lines 15-18), However Yamashita et al do not disclose: and control means for controlling driving of said reading means according to driving of printing means, On the other hand Senda discloses: control means for controlling driving of said reading means according to driving of printing means (please

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note Figs.1 and 4, column 5 lines 38-48 where Senda teaches the way CPU1 drives the printing head 9 at the same time reading the data form the memory).

Therefore it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in art at the time of the invention to modify Yamashita et al's invention according to the teaching of Senda, where Senda in the same field of endeavor teaches the way the print data could be transmitted from the reading device to the printing device synchronously in purpose of shortening the process of printing.

Regarding claims 2 and 7 Yamashita et al disclose: An electronic print-board apparatus of claim 1, wherein said Control means controls driving of said reading means for synchronization with driving of said printing means (please note Fig.3 column 5 lines 15-20 where the controller controls the printing).

Regarding claims 3 and 8 Yamashita et al disclose: An electronic print-board apparatus of claim 1, wherein said control means controls driving of said reading means by temporarily discontinuing the driving for synchronization with driving of said printing means (please note column 11-20).

Regarding claims 4 and 9 Yamashita et al disclose: An electronic print-board apparatus of claim 1, wherein said control means controls driving of said reading means by reducing a driving speed thereof for synchronization with driving of said printing means (please note column 5 lines 13-19).

Regarding claims 5 and 10 Yamashita et al disclose: An electronic print-board apparatus of claim 1, wherein said printing means includes a plurality of plain paper sheets (please note column 3 lines 1-7).

Regarding claim 7 Yamashita et al disclose: An electronic print-board apparatus of claim 6, wherein said control means controls driving of said printing means for synchronization with driving of said reading means (please note Fig.3 column 5 lines 15-20 where the controller controls the printing).

Regarding claims 12 and 14 Yamashita et al disclose: An electronic print-board apparatus of claim 11, wherein said control means controls the print starting time of said printing means in such manner that it is coincidental with the reading starting time of said reading means (please note column 5 lines 11-20).

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 15-28 are allowed.

Claims 15-28 are allowed over the prior art of Yamashita et al (U.S. patent 5,146,345) and Wierszewski et al (U.S. patent 5,839,045) as the prior art fails to teach the collective key features of the claims such as transportation time adjustment means including the paper detecting sensor provided downstream of said printing section for detecting a position of a leading end of said paper sheet.

4. Claims 29-32 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 29-32 are objected to over the prior art of Yamashita et al (U.S. patent 5,146,345) and Wierszewski et al (U.S. patent 5,839,045) as the prior art

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fails to teach the collective key features of the claims such as transportation time adjustment means including the paper detecting sensor provided downstream of said printing section for detecting a position of a leading end of said paper sheet.

Other prior art cited

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Akiyama (U.S. patent 6,462,831) is pertinent as disclosing an image forming apparatus and method used therefor.

Takahashi (U.S. patent 6,067,902) is pertinent as disclosing a stencil printer.

Aosaki et al (U.S. patent 5,220,436) is pertinent as disclosing an electronic coping machine.

Takahashi et al (U.S. patent 5,329,444) is pertinent as disclosing a work management system employing electronic board.

DiBianca (U.S. patent 4,901,100) is pertinent as disclosing a single pass color highlighting copying system.

Satake (U.S. patent 4,720,749) is pertinent as disclosing an electronic print board.

Nakamura et al (U.S. patent 4,727,431) is pertinent as disclosing an electronic print board.

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Takekawa et al (U.S. patent 6,335,724) is pertinent as disclosing a method and device for inputting coordinate-position and display board system.

Contact Information

- Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to *Saeid Ebrahimi-Dehkordy* whose telephone number is (703) 306-3487.

The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kimberly Williams, can be reached at (703) 305-4863.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Or faxed to:

(703) 872-9314, or (703) 308-9052 (for **formal** communications; please mark

"EXPEDITED PROCEDURE")

Or:

(703) 306-5406 (for **informal** or **draft** communications, please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

Hand delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group Receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4750.

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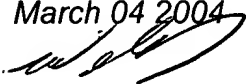
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Saeid Ebrahimi-Dehkordy

Patent Examiner

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March 04 2004



KIMBERLY WILLIAMS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER